

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TANANA 01805 210651Z

12

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SY-04 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

RSC-01 L-02 /017 W

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R 201345Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6719

INFO USSS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1805

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CFED, US, MA

SUBJECT: POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF COUNTERFEITING CASE

REFS: TANANARIVE 1766 AND 1707

1. U.S. SECRET SERVICE AGENT GERALD D. PETIEVICH PROVIDED JUDGE D'INSTRUCTION WITH EXPERT REPORT ON U.S. CINTERFEIT \$100 NOTES ON 20 NOV. PETIEVICH ASKED JUDGE HOW HE THOUGHT COUNTERFEITERS HOPED TO MAKE A PROFIT GIVEN TIGHT MALAGASY FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROLS AND POOR QUALITY OF NOTES. JUDGE REPLIED THAT GOMR BELIEVED MOTIVATIONS FOR COUNTERFEITERS MAY BE POLITICAL TO SOMEHOW DISCREDIT GOVERNMENT. JUDGE SAID ONE OF SUSPECTS IS HENRI RESAMPA, SON OF FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT ANDRE RESAMPA. RESAMPA'S SON IS BELIEVED TO BE IN REUNION AND JUDGE SAID HE WILL BE ARRESTED ON HIS RETURN TO MADAGASCAR. JUDGE DECLINED TO PROVIDE PETIEVICH WITH COPIES OF STATEMENTS MADE BY FIFTEEN SUSPECTS BEING HELD BUT DID FURNISH THEIR NAMES. PETIEVICH INVESTIGATION HERE COMPLETED.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: GOMR SUSPICION THAT COUNTERFEITERS ARE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED STRIKES US AS FARFETCHED, SINCE IT IS UNCLEAR HOW COUNTERFEIT U.S. NOTES COULD EMBARRASS GOMR. FACT THAT SUCH SUSPICION EXISTS, HOWEVER, SERVES TO EXPLAIN GORM'S LACK OF COOPERATION AT OUTSET TFD INVESQTIGATION. EMBASSY TOO HAS SUSPICION, WHICH IS THAT
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GOMR MAY BE CONSTRUCTING ELABORATE CASE TO ATTACK

RESAMPA AND PSM (MALAGASY SOCIALIST PARTY). PETIEVICH WAS
IMPRESSED BY UNUSUALLY HEAVY VOLUME OF DOCUMENTATION
THAT JUGE D'INSTRUCTION WADED THROUGH AS HE DISCUSSED
CASE.
ELFERS

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Message Attributes

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